

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data processing apparatus comprising:
detection means for detecting whether an illegal
process has been performed for input digital contents
5 on the basis of a result obtained by performing a
predetermined operation for at least a part of said
digital contents; and
processing means for, when said detection means
detects that the illegal process has been performed,
10 performing a predetermined process for said digital
contents.
2. A data processing apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said processing means performs a filtering
15 process.
3. A data processing apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said processing means reduces a resolution
of said digital contents.
4. A data processing apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said processing means encrypts said digital
contents.
- 25 5. A data processing apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said processing means adds a bit string to
said digital contents.

6. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means adds visible or invisible information to said digital contents.

5 7. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means stores information concerning said digital contents.

10 8. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means halts the output of said digital contents.

15 9. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means corrects said digital contents and outputs the corrected digital contents.

20 10. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said digital contents are image data, and said control means corrects colors of said image data.

25 11. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, to detect an illegal activity, said detection means obtains a hash value by using at least one part of said digital contents.

12. A data processing method comprising:

detection step for detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of the 5 digital contents; and

a processing step of, when it is detected at said detection step that the illegal process has been performed, performing a predetermined process for said digital contents.

10

13. A storage medium on which a computer-readable program is stored, said program comprising:

a detection step of detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of result obtained by performing a 15 predetermined operation for at least a part of said digital contents; and

a processing step of, when it is detected at said detection step that the illegal process has been performed, performing a predetermined process for said 20 digital contents.

15

14. A data processing apparatus comprising:

operation means for performing a predetermined 25 calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in a first sub-set;

extraction means for extracting information that is embedded as a digital watermark in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents; and

5 comparison means for comparing the value obtained through said predetermined calculation with said information that is extracted.

10 15. A data processing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said operation means calculates hash values for said data values that are included in said first sub-set.

15 16. A data processing method comprising:
an operation step of performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in a first sub-set;

20 17. an extraction step of extracting information that is embedded as a digital watermark in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents; and

25 a comparison step of comparing the value obtained through said predetermined calculation with said information that is extracted.

17. A storage medium on which a computer-readable

program is stored, said program comprising:

an operation step of performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in a first sub-set;

an extraction step of extracting information that is embedded as a digital watermark in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents; and

10 a comparison step of comparing the value obtained through said predetermined calculation with said information that is extracted.

18. A data processing apparatus comprising:

15 operation means for performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in a first sub-set; and

embedding means for embedding a result obtained by
20 said predetermined calculation in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents.

19. A data processing apparatus according to
25 claim 18, wherein said operation means calculates hash values for said data values that are included in said first sub-set.

20. A data processing method comprising:
an operation step of performing a predetermined
calculation using data values that constitute input
digital contents and that are included in a first sub-
set; and

5 an embedding step of embedding a result obtained
by said predetermined calculation in a second sub-set.
composed of said data values that constitute said
digital contents.

10

21. A storage medium on which a computer-readable
program is stored, said program comprising:

an operation step of performing a predetermined
calculation using data values that constitute input
15 digital contents and that are included in a first sub-
set; and
an embedding step of embedding a result obtained
by said predetermined calculation in a second sub-set
composed of said data values that constitute said
20 digital contents.

22. A data processing apparatus comprising:
embedding means for embedding, in digital
contents, a digital watermark that includes a time
25 whereat said digital contents were prepared; and
file preparation means for preparing a file that
accompanies said digital contents and for writing in

said file a file update time.

23. A data processing method comprising:
an embedding step of embedding, in digital
5 contents, a digital watermark that includes a time
whereat said digital contents were prepared; and
a file preparation step of preparing a file that.
accompanies said digital contents and of writing in
said file a file update time.

10

24. A storage medium on which a computer-readable
program is stored, said program comprising:
an embedding step of embedding, in digital
contents, a digital watermark that includes a time
15 whereat said digital contents were prepared; and
a file preparation step of preparing a file that
accompanies said digital contents and of writing in
said file a file update time.

20

25. A data processing apparatus comprising:
extraction means for extracting a digital contents
preparation time, from digital contents in which
information indicating said digital contents
preparation time is embedded as a digital watermark,
and a digital contents update time, from a file in
which said digital contents update time is written; and
comparison means for comparing said preparation

time with said update time.

26. A data processing method comprising:
an extraction step of extracting a digital
5 contents preparation time, from digital contents in
which information indicating said digital contents
preparation time is embedded as a digital watermark,
and a digital contents update time, from a file in
which said digital contents update time is written; and
10 a comparison step of comparing said preparation
time with said update time.

27. A storage medium on which a computer-readable
program is stored, said program comprising:
15 an extraction step of extracting a digital
contents preparation time, from digital contents in
which information indicating said digital contents
preparation time is embedded as a digital watermark,
and a digital contents update time, from a file in
20 which said digital contents update time is written; and
a comparison step of comparing said preparation
time with said update time.